

Hawaiian Gazette.

SEMI-WEEKLY.

PUBLISHED TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

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(From Saturday's Daily.)

This year's celebration of the birthday of the Emperor of Japan is notable from the fact that it is the first of these anniversary observances following the taking effect of the new treaties which give to the courts of His Imperial Majesty's domain the fullest recognition and highest credence. This fact has been commented upon by Japanese and their friends and the elevation of the status of the courts of the Land of the Rising Sun has been added to the list of great accomplishments for the country since Mutsu-hito came to the throne.

MR. HERBERT'S REPORT.

Mr. Allan Herbert, as one of the Commissioners of Agriculture, should be encouraged to preach the gospel of reform in our land system, and the care of our forests. Like all apostles, he cannot expect much support from a community that is prostrate before the sugar god, and does not smile upon any industry that may interfere with its worship. The pastor of a church on the dangerous coast of New Jersey fervently implored his congregation, which was composed entirely of people engaged in the "wrecking" business, to establish a theological seminary in the town. A committee reported on the matter and declared that the wrecking business was good enough for the people and the introduction of theological students might lead the people astray and make them dissatisfied. Mr. Herbert must understand that while individual sentiments are in many cases in favor of small farms and improvements, the prevailing public sentiment is against introducing any industries which may lead people astray. To sacrifice all other interests to one large profitable industry is natural and in accordance with all experience. The agricultural writers of the South have urged the cotton planters for thirty years to encourage the small farming, but the public sentiment has been in favor of cotton-raising, and the agricultural writers have been regarded as false Apostles who have tried to lead the people astray.

The local government has been, for years, exceedingly weak in the Interior Department, in which laid the hope of adjusting our industries so as to partially equalize them. We have needed something more than a natural evolution here. The sugar industry created abnormal conditions, and these should have been met constantly by an energetic, almost irresistible officer of the Interior, who had seen to it that sugar did not have its own way in all things, and in the name of American civilization at least, had irresistibly and in spite of any and all opposition, had established the small farms, and small industries.

Mr. Herbert will, unfortunately, find that the improvements which he desires, will hereafter be more or less subject to partisan and political control. That sort of superintendence does not generally work for much good. But Mr. Herbert must not be discouraged. Providence has assigned to him a mission and missionaries begin to know that immediate results are not to be expected. If Mr. Herbert could only contrive to suffer martyrdom, or tempt the planters to lynch him for preaching agricultural heresies, he might attract the attention of the public to these subjects for which he would willingly shed his blood.

THE MEETING OF CONGRESS.

In about a month from this time Congress will meet, and begin a session which promises to be one of extraordinary interest. It will consider the financial question, that is, of settling the standard of coin, though it may not take final action on it.

It will take up the relation of the Federal Government to the new territories, after the people have reflected on it for some months, and the blood has cooled off. The perplexing problems will be the government of Porto Rico, acquired by conquest, the temporary government of Cuba, the despoilation of the Philippines and the measures for governing Hawaii. Each of these questions is quite enough to cause prolonged debate and create much difference of opinions. Each of them should be separated from the others, and be treated upon its own merits, excepting only as all are involved in a common policy. But any clear cut separation is improbable. The questions are novel, and call for new departures. The fight between the strict and the liberal constructionists of the Constitution will be bitter. Behind the opinions which members of Congress have, and will express on general political principles, there are those other

opinions which are more active in the minds of Congressmen regarding the effect of legislation upon the coming presidential campaign. These opinions are now the unknown factors and will operate as undercurrents.

Hawaii, owing to its limited area, and small white population, presents to Congress the least important of all these questions. To us, residing here, it is the most important. As annexation has taken place, Congress may treat Hawaii as it treats Alaska or any other territory. It is not under pressure to promptly provide laws for her, because she is no longer independent.

The bills already introduced into both Houses for the government of Hawaii express the views of the Republican leaders, but at the same time, contain novel provisions regarding the disposition of lands, and of the property qualifications in the local political system, which will cause debate and opposition. Whether the majority in Congress will accept these provisions cannot be safely predicted. There is some ground for believing that the Hawaiian case may be disposed of before the first of March.

But if the labor questions, and the tariff questions are forced into the discussion, there will probably be much delay in acting upon the matter.

This community is ignorant, and profoundly ignorant, of the trend of thought on the labor question, in the States. Through the activity of the sugar beet men, the powerful farming interests have waked up to the danger of "cheap labor" in the new possessions. Dr. Maxwell has shown that in Hawaii, at least, the labor is no cheaper than it is in Louisiana, but it must be remembered that the white farmers of the North despise the cheap labor of the Southern States, and the statement aggravates them so long as they cannot individually get any benefit from it in cultivating their own farms.

Although Hawaii is not a menace at present to the sugar-beet industry, those who are stirring up the farmers and laborers on the subject will claim that she is. The danger is that in the confusion and failure to obtain correct information there may be some compromise legislation, which may not be as favorable as we desire.

The community, acting upon the local Government, has maintained a policy, in some matters, which is not favored by the Federal laws, and our position in Washington is not what it should be.

However, if Congress carries out the contract contained in the Newland's Resolution we cannot complain.

The experience of the late few months in the newly acquired territories tends towards a greater centralization of the Government of these territories in the Executive at Washington. It would not be surprising if the theory of home rule would be largely modified as inexpedient in places where the alien races outnumbered the whites. The domination of American rule will be maintained.

LATEST IN SPIRITUALISM.

One Mrs. Leonora E. Piper now appears as the last sensational connecting link between this world and the world beyond. Prof. Hodgson, and the Rev. Minot J. Savage have discovered her, and predict that through her as a medium, we shall have some startling and accurate information about the other world. So far, however, there is only the repetition of the old "gag," which any one can find in a seance, if cash is promptly paid on the spot. The medium surprises the inquirer, by stating that "John," or "Jimmie," or "Susie" wishes to communicate, but when the connection is made, the information is invariably flat and vague.

The remarkable feature about all Spiritism, is that the ghosts avoid giving any definite information. We desire to know what the environment of the ghost is, in the other world, is there air in the vicinity? Does Mars look to it any different from what it does to us? What is the society of the spirit land? What is the occupation of the residents?

In all of the communications sent through mediums from the other world the information is usually only that which the medium knows. It has a decidedly earthly flavor. It is substantially the talk of a person who is in the flesh, and is looking at things through the living eyes, and the earthly imagination. It is the repetition of Flammarion's experience which forced him to abandon spiritism, because his ghostly astronomical friend knew less in the other world than in this.

Whenever intelligent men, like Prof. Hodgson and Rev. M. Savage, announce a new discovery in spiritism, the numerous people of a certain physical type become intensely excited, and lose their heads. An exposure of the honest or dishonest methods of communication does not disturb them in the least.

Prof. Hodgson declares that within a short time, he will be able to prove the immortality of the soul, through Mrs. Piper's agency. All that can be expected is that there will be some vague and incomprehensible statements, which may be interpreted so as to meet the wishes and temperaments of the different inquirers.

THE EXPERIMENTAL STATION.

Dr. Walter Maxwell's report on the "Work of the Experimental Station and Laboratories" presents an excellent example of what science can do. It is not what science can do for the student but what it can do for the planter. Every step in the experiments made in the growing of cane at the station are made on the soil itself, and not in the laboratory or on paper. Upon twenty plots of land, twenty different methods of cultivation have been tried, with an accuracy which only the thoroughly trained scientist, who has also studied in the field can make. The report should be carefully read not only by the planters, but every one who holds any sugar stock. For there are in it, data and suggestions which indicate clearly what the history of Hawaiian cane cultivation will be, and how the value of sugar stock will decline unless the teachings of science are carefully followed.

The report is so compact, filling thirty pages of the Planters' Monthly, that an abstract of its contents is impossible. Only a few items in it are here mentioned which will interest the general reader. On these nineteen plots, situated near Punahou, the amount of sugar raised when calculated per acre, amounted on the average to thirteen tons. All of the plots were irrigated, more or less. Nineteen were fertilized and one plot was not. The closest account was taken of the weight of the cane, and the sucrose in it. Fertilizers were applied, in different combinations, to each plot. The soil was analyzed in advance.

The analyses and calculations now furnished, develop interesting and startling conclusions. The cane feeds mainly on nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash. There are 6519 lbs. of nitrogen in one acre of the soil, to a depth of fifteen inches. The first crop of cane on these plots took out 366 lbs. of this nitrogen, showing that seventeen crops would entirely exhaust the nitrogen in it. The same proposition is generally true of potash and phosphoric acid. The crop of Rose bamboo cane removed from the soil, per acre, 164 lbs. of phosphoric acid, 1140 lbs. of potash, and 412 lbs. of nitrogen. Unless these fertilizers are restored to the soil the crops must inevitably decrease. These fertilizers are costly, but they cannot be withheld if the yield of sugar is maintained. The natural resources of the soil, under high cultivation, become quickly exhausted and the yield must fall, unless there is constant restoration of fertility.

If the money value of these ingredients is taken, it will be seen that at no distant period, the cost of fertilization will be a very serious one on many plantations. The value of sugar stocks will not be taken from the lists of the stock exchange by the intelligent investors, but from an inspection of the methods of cultivation of the land. A thief may steal the plantation's money or carry off some of its cane, but a robbery of the soil, the most valuable of the assets, may not be discovered until it is too late to recover the goods.

The analyses show that while the mineral matter taken from an acre of soil amounts to 745 lbs. in the cane itself, the amount of mineral matter in the cane leaves is much greater being 5478 lbs. Wherever the leaves are burnt up at trash, just as much valuable matter, containing nitrogen is scattered to the winds. It is throwing coin into the sea.

The practice on the plantations generally is to use one hundred millions of gallons of water per day, to irrigate and care for one hundred acres of cane land. The experiments at the station shows that one hundred millions gallons per day should sufficiently irrigate four hundred acres. If this result is verified by further experiments, it shows that three-fourths of the water now used is simply wasted or lost. The money value of this fact rises into the millions and may, in time, reconstruct the irrigation processes.

The work of the experimental station is still in its beginning. Dr. Maxwell advances his conclusions cautiously and tentatively. Much remains to be done. Nature does not cast her valuable secrets into the streets to be picked up by the idlers. She yields them only at the persistent demand of the thinker and investigator. The experimental stations of the Mainland have done more for the advancement of agriculture in fifteen years than the ineffectual, desultory and guessing work of the farmer, for a century.

Neither the farmer nor the planter should be discredited. Both are stumbling over valuable nuggets in the field. But it is work by the rule of thumb. They have the right to expect from the scientific farmer better results from cane cultivation than they can secure themselves, just as they expect better results from the employment of mechanical engineers in mill work.

A FRENCH SCIENTIST.

Henri Leveque de Vilmorin, who recently died near Paris, France, is another of the few men who do not pass

into a state of torpidity, when possessed of wealth. He was a member of the firm of Vilmorin, Audrieux & Co., manufacturers of beet sugar. His father had studied the beet industry with care and the son determined to use his large wealth, and his brains in improving the plants. He did not resort to experimental stations, which exist and are necessary because the cultivator cannot or does not use his own brains. He conducted his own experiments and was noted for making the most systematic study of the heredity of plants. While his father is known as one who developed a race of beets of remarkable richness, the son broadened his father's experiments and for the purpose of improving many other plants. The French, the English, the Belgian, the Italian governments "decorated" him for his valuable contribution to the practical side of life.

There were many thousands of farmers in France, who were anxious to better their condition by increasing the yield and quality of the beet juice, but science to them was only a dark night into which they stared with meaningless gaze. Vilmorin and the men like him with the eyes of thought trained to look into blank space "Through man and woman, and sea and star,

Saw the dawn of nature forward far."

By so much as the least improvement in the quality of vegetables and flowers, which his close scientific observation obtained, he contributed to the sum of human happiness, and, if we are humbly permitted to believe it, laid up treasure for himself in the vaults beyond the stars. He was one of the few men, now fortunately increasing in numbers, who have extricated themselves from the barbaric environments of material prosperity and really left the world better than they found it.

CLOSING THE GAP.

The Outlook, edited by Dr. Lyman Abbott, announces that it will no longer divide its news and comments under heads designated as the "Religious World," the "Home Club," and other departments of literature. It will hereafter make no especial distinction between secular and religious knowledge. Its reasons are:

"No other truth seems to us more fundamental, more important, or more needing emphasis in our time than the truth that religion is not a department in life, and that when we try to make it so, it ceases to be religion. Religion is a standard by which all life is to be measured, a principle by which all life is to be governed, a spirit by which all life is to be imbued—the spirit of faith and hope and love."

The New York Sun recently invited a discussion in its columns upon the immortality of the soul. Correspondence has been published from all parts of the country, and an intense interest manifested in it. Of this correspondence the Sun says: "We do not recognize any bar to the discussion of questions of religion in the Sun. They are the greatest themes with which the human mind can occupy itself, and to shut out their consideration from this newspaper would be to put a limitation upon its proper field wholly inconsistent with our conception of editorial duty and wisdom."

Here, then, is the spectacle of a purely religious paper, in its origin, throwing off its exclusiveness, and meeting half way, upon a common ground the secular newspaper, which, on its side, abandons secular exclusiveness, and unites with the religious journal in a cause which is in the nature of things common to both.

The crudity of the conception of man's relations to nature and life as displayed by the old, and many of the living, theologians, is amazing. For they dealt largely with "brain web and shadow," and spurned the reality. But the gap which they perhaps created, and at least kept open, is gradually closing. It is not the least of the triumphs of this century that it has created, or witnessed the acceptance of the truth that man is not like an Australian idol which is constructed out of two pieces of wood, of different qualities, but he is made out of one piece, and the divine and the human cannot be distinguished by any cunning devices. This "living" theologians welcome this change. They approve of the killing of the vermin of ignorance around the cradle of Truth, as the snakes were strangled around the cradle of Hercules.

This tendency to obliterate the distinction made between religious and secular affairs, is said by the religious pessimists, to indicate a decline of faith. Whether the tendency to believe more in the reasoning powers, and the realities of the world, as revealed by science, and less in the creeds, is an evidence of decline in the broadest and truest faith is a question by itself. The Sun, after considering the large correspondence it has received on the subject of the immortality of the soul, and after commenting upon the liberality of that powerful churchman Bishop Potter in approving of the reception of that "Presbyterian heretic," Dr.

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Briggs into the Protestant Episcopal church, insists that there is a decline of faith in the Bible among the clergy and laity. But the Sun claims that there is a marked difference at the present time in the discussion of these questions. There is respect, toleration of opposition and a desire to seek the truth which a few years ago was not possible. In a discussion about theology forty years ago, between the Andover and the Princeton Theological seminaries, the contest was so bitter that the New York Herald sneeringly said that opening paragraph of every article written by the professors were "allusions to the serious danger of hell fire which confronted the opposing professors."

Such discussions are past. Whatever the situation is, whether it be a decline or a rise in faith, it ceases to be a subject which will be "torn to tatters" by angry disputants. It means, finally, light and truth.

OPERATION

After some years of labor friction, of strikes, anxiety and losses, the planters of these Islands will adopt some form of co-operation with the laborers, which will vest in each laborer an interest in the plantation. After thirty years of strife, the great railway corporations are giving their employees an interest in the corporations. The Illinois Central Railway Company have adopted this plan:

"On the first of each month the price of shares at the New York Stock Exchange is telegraphed to Chicago, and the paymaster is authorized to sell one share to each employee at that price. Payment is accepted in sums of \$5, or any multiple thereof. Interest at 4 per cent. per annum is allowed on the partial payments, and, when an employee leaves the service, he must either pay in full for his share and receive a certificate therefor, or take his money, with the interest added. The number of officers and employees, other than directors of the corporation, registered on the books of the company as stockholders, is 705, and their holdings amount to 2,554 shares. The number of stockholders registered on the books is 6,526. Barely one-seventh of them own over 100 shares apiece."

SUGAR IN 1874.

In 1874 Chas. Nordhoff visited these Islands and wrote a book about them. He stated that there were thirty-four sugar plantations. He was informed that the planters who were out of debt, and did not borrow, did well. But the planters and their agents never acted in concert. The agents took the profits of the plantations, because the rates of interest were high and the commissions large. The wages paid in that year were \$8 per month with food, or \$11 without food.

OFFICER FANEUF SHOT.

Serious Mishap in the Camp of Police at Waianae.

Charles J. Faneuf, deputy sheriff of Ewa and Waianae, is lying at the Queen's Hospital with a bullet wound through his knee, inflicted by one of his own police force at the Waianae court-house last Saturday morning.

Faneuf and his men retired to rest in the courtroom at about midnight, thoroughly played out with the work and excitement attendant on the Chinese troubles of the last week at Waianae, and Faneuf, who had but six or seven hours' sleep during the week, got up in his sleep and in walking about became entangled in the mosquito net, and in his effort to get free was seen by the jailer's wife, whose screams of terror at the apparition brought out the men, rifles in hand. Still laboring under excitement the police rushed upon their chief, and while one of them struck him twice with the butt of a rifle, another—Officer Manuel—fired two shots at the now thoroughly awakened sheriff, one of which entered his knee. The sufferer was brought to town by the morning train and conveyed to the hospital, where Drs. Cooper and Raymond dressed the wound.

Last night Faneuf was resting comfortably and progressing favorably.

NOW IN MEXICO

American Sugar Machinery in Sister Republic.

Modern Refinery Plant Shipped From New Orleans—Many Acres Under Cultivation—Field of the Case.

(E. C. Butler in the Manufacturer.)

The establishment of central sugar refineries in Mexico is fast becoming an fait accompli, as in the Antilles. In order to take advantage of the reduced circumstances of many of the planters of the Island of Antigua, on the suggestion of Joseph Chamberlain, British Secretary for the Colonies, this step was first taken in the island. Robert Harvey, of the firm of McOnie, Harvey & Co., Ltd., of Glasgow, went to Antigua, and as a result a central sugar refinery will be established there.

The heavy machinery requisite for such a concentrated plant costs a great deal of money; but it has been calculated that the island now loses by reason of the lack of such an establishment about 50,000 pounds sterling annually.

The experiment in Mexico is likewise bound to result in the saving of millions of dollars, for the small planters can then afford to have their sugar manufactured, and as it is to be treated by the finest and most modern appliances, a higher percentage of sugar will be forthcoming, next came cutting a more acceptable commercial condition, consequently commanding better prices.

Two central refineries are being rapidly completed and they will revolutionize the sugar industry in Mexico. These are the San Cristobal plant and the mills of the Panuco Sugar Manufacturing Company, both in the State of Vera Cruz.

The San Cristobal Central Refinery is being constructed at a cost of \$1,000,000, the company itself being capitalized in the sum of \$1,300,000, and including the well-known planters Nicolas Perez and Julian Chinchurreta. It is the biggest concern of the kind in the Republic of Mexico, and it is calculated will treat the next cane cutting (January, 1900) and will be capable of handling during the season 150,000 to 200,000 arrobas (25 pounds) of sugar. The machinery is being installed in buildings of stone and iron, and the power employed will be 1,000 horse power. The capacity of the grinding machinery, under pressure, will be 600 tons of cane daily. It is a Spanish concern, but the machinery, costing in New Orleans \$150,000 gold, is all American; triple effect crushers, grinders, centrifugals, etc., of the manufacture of the Whitney Iron Works, J. B. & J. M. Cornell and the Burt Company, all of New Orleans. The plant will be in operation by the first of the year. This concern is located near Tlacotalpa, and the plantation covers nearly 100,000 acres.

The Panuco plant (also a central refinery) covers 150,000 acres, of which 20,000 are now under cultivation in sugar. The concern is capitalized in \$1,200,000 of French and Mexican capital.

The design of these central sugar manufacturing, the first in the Republic of Mexico, is to make sugar not only for the immense concerns themselves, but also to crush and prepare it for smaller haciendas in their vicinity, which cannot afford to put in the heavy and complicated machinery needed in the production of the finest sugars. A few hours are required for the making of sugar by this improved American machinery, whereas from fifteen to twenty days are required under the old-time process that has been in vogue in this country since the days of Cortez.

The cane in the country adjacent to the San Cristobal and the Panuco plants yields easily sixty tons to the acre of cane and of the 70 per cent juice obtainable, even with one crushing, by this modern machinery, 14 per cent as a minimum is available in sugar.

CHIEFS AT OUTS.

APIA, Samoa Islands, Oct. 19, via Auckland, Oct. 25.—Ostensibly to collect the poll tax imposed by the Provisional Government, thirty Matafale chiefs came into Apia. Two of their number were assaulted by a relative of Tamasese for a breach of etiquette while passing the latter's house. Both factions prepared for hostilities, but at the strenuous effort of the officials and friends of both sides it was agreed that the difference should be settled in the native court, when both sides apologized.

Neither the German Consul nor the captain of the German cruiser Cormoran assisted to avert fighting.

A proclamation has been issued directing that taxes are to be paid only at the Government House.

LONDON, Oct. 24.—The First Lord of the Treasury and Government Leader, A. J. Balfour, replying in the House of Commons to a question regarding the damage done to Roman Catholic missions in Samoa by the shells of British warships, said only a single case had been brought to the notice of the Government, adding that any claim would be fully considered. But, he pointed out, according to the principles of international law, the Government was under no liability to compensate for losses caused by operations of war.

BERLIN, Oct. 24.—The German protected cruiser Cormoran has been ordered to remain at Samoa. A dispatch to the Cologne Gazette from Apia says: "The proposal to divide Samoa is considered here a most unhappy solution. Owing to the manifold interests linking the islands to Germany, it is hoped that she will not renounce her claim."